

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A vaccine~~ An immunogenic composition comprising a polypeptide, including immunogenic fragments thereof, having an amino acid sequence with at least 65% identical identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8 wherein said polypeptide is in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and binds to an antibody specific for *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~vaccine~~ immunogenic composition of claim 1 wherein ~~said amino acid sequence is at least 80% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8~~ sequence identity is at least 80%.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~vaccine~~ immunogenic composition of claim 1 wherein ~~said amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8~~ sequence identity is at least 95%.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~vaccine~~ immunogenic composition of claim 1 wherein ~~said polypeptide has the amino acid sequence is identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.~~

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5. (Original) An antiserum produced by immunizing an animal with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the polypeptides of claims 1, 2, 3, and 4.

6. (Original) An isolated antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the polypeptides according to claims 1, 2, 3, and 4.

7. (Original) The antibody of claim 6 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

8. (Original) An engineered cell producing a monoclonal antibody of claim 7.

9. (Original) An antiserum produced by immunizing an animal with the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 8.

10. (Original) An isolated recombinant antibody that binds specifically to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the polypeptides of claims 1, 2, 3, and 4.

11. (Original) A vaccine comprising :

a. one or more *S. pneumoniae* polypeptides selected from the group consisting of the polypeptides of claims 1, 2, 3, and 4; and

b. a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein said polypeptide is present in an amount effective to elicit protective antibodies in an animal against an organism of the genus *Streptococcus*.

12. (Original) A method of preventing or attenuating an infection caused by a member of the genus *Streptococcus* in an animal, comprising administering to said animal a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the polypeptides of claims 1, 2, 3, and 4, and wherein said polypeptide is administered in an amount effective to prevent or attenuate said infection.

13. (Original) A method of preventing pneumococcal infection by administering to an animal the vaccine according to claim 11.

14. (Original) A method of preventing or attenuating an infection caused by a member of the genus *Streptococcus* in an animal, comprising administering to said animal an antibody of claim 6, wherein said antibody is administered in an amount effective to prevent or attenuate said infection.

15. (Original) A vaccine comprising a microbial organism transformed with

polynucleotides, and thereby expressing the polypeptides, or fragments thereof, selected from the group consisting of Sp130.

16. (Original) A method of preventing or attenuating an infection caused by a member of the genus *Streptococcus* in an animal, comprising administering to said animal a vaccine according to claim 15, wherein said antibody is administered in an amount effective to prevent or attenuate said infection.

17. (Original) The vaccine according to claim 15, wherein said transformed microorganism is selected from the group consisting of *Salmonella*, *Mycobacteria*, *Streptococcus*, poxviruses, and adenoviruses.

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Please add the following new claim:

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18. (New) A vaccine comprising a polypeptide, including immunogenic fragments thereof, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

19. (New) A method of protecting an animal against pneumococcal infection by administering to an animal at risk of said infection the vaccine according to claim 18.

20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein said animal is a human being.

21. (New) The vaccine of claim 18 wherein said immunogenic fragments comprise one or more of the fragments selected from residues 657 – 773, 650 – 773, 640 – 773, 630 – 773, 620 – 773, 610 – 773, and 600 – 773 of SEQ ID NO: 8.

22.  
21. (New) The vaccine of claim 18 wherein said immunogenic fragment is residues 657 – 773 of SEQ ID NO: 8.

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